



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration  
Rockville MD 20857

JUL 2 2012

Re: YERVOY  
Patent Nos. 6,984,720; 7,605,238  
Docket Nos. FDA-2011-E-0682  
FDA-2011-E-0683

The Honorable David J. Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Mail Stop Hatch-Waxman PTE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Director Kappos:

This is concerning the applications for patent term extension for U.S. Patent Nos. 6,984,720 and 7,605,238 filed by Medarex, Inc., under 35 U.S.C. 156. The human biological product claimed by the patents is YERVOY (ipilimumab), which was assigned biologics license application (BLA) No. 125377.

A review of the Food and Drug Administration's official records indicates that this product was subject to a regulatory review period before its commercial marketing or use, as required under 35 U.S.C. 156(a)(4). Our records also indicate that it represents the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product, as defined under 35 U.S.C. 156(f)(1).

The BLA was approved on March 25, 2011, which makes the submission of the patent term extension applications on May 16, 2011, timely within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 156(d)(1).

Should you conclude that the subject patent is eligible for patent term extension, please advise us accordingly. As required by 35 U.S.C. 156(d)(2)(A) we will then determine the applicable regulatory review period, publish the determination in the *Federal Register*, and notify you of our determination.

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Jane A. Axelrad  
Associate Director for Policy  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Kappos - YERVOY  
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